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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1384
INFO RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY 2035
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 2153
RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY 0218
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 1204
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 1922
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0452

UNCLAS MOSCOW 003763

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [EWWT](#) [KCRM](#) [MOPS](#) [PBTS](#) [PHSA](#) [PTER](#) [RS](#)
SUBJECT: RUSSIAN MFA UNDECIDED ON LEAD DEPARTMENT FOR
SOMALI PIRACY CONTACT GROUP MEETING

REF: A. STATE 133199
[1](#)B. STATE 133750

[1](#)1. (SBU) In response to reftel requests, Post sent invitations for the January 13-14, 2009 inaugural meeting of the Contact Group on Somalia Piracy (CGSP) in New York and the January 13 pre-meeting of key countries to the Legal, International Organizations, and North Americas Departments of the Russian Foreign Ministry. According to our contacts in the International Organizations Department, the MFA has not yet decided which of its departments will have lead responsibility for the piracy issue. It is possible that the Department of New Threats and Challenges, which already has experience with special operations such as counter-terrorism and counter-narcotics issues, may be given the portfolio. Our contacts indicated that the MFA will let the U.S. know, most likely through the Russian UN mission in New York, as soon as a decision is made on who will lead the Russian delegation to the CGSP meeting.

[1](#)2. (U) The Russian government is closed for a long official holiday January 1 - 9, 2009.
RUBIN